

REMARKS

The examiner has objected to claims 4, 15, and 20 due to formalities. Accordingly, claims 4, 15, and 20 have been amended. The specification has also been amended as requested by the examiner.

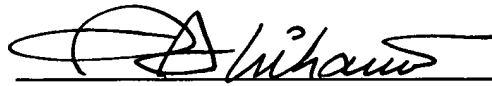
Applicant acknowledges the allowability of claims 4, 6, 7, 9, 16, 20, 21, 23, and 30. In response, Applicant amends claim 1 to include the limitations of claims 5 and 6 and amends claim 17 to depend on claim 1. Applicant also added new claims 31 and 32, which correspond to allowed claims 20 and 21.

Applicant cancels claims 2, 5, and 6.

Now pending in this application are claims 1, 3-4, and 7-32, of which claims 1, 31, and 32 are independent. No additional fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this response. However, to the extent fees are due, or if a refund is forthcoming, please adjust our deposit account 06 1050, referencing attorney docket number "12816-064001."

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 24, 2004



Faustino A. Lichauco
Reg. No. 41,942

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906